

### **REMARKS**

The issues outstanding in this application are:

- Claims 17-23, 29-31, 33, 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).
- Claim 24-26, 32 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).
- Claims 27, 28, and 34 are indicated as having allowable content.

Claims 17, 30, and 33 have been canceled, claims 28 and 36 were previously presented, and claims 18-27, 29, 31-32, and 34-35 are currently amended. Claims 18-29, 31-32, and 34-36 are pending in this application. No new matter has been added.

### **All Claims Are Now Allowable:**

Claim 27 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of its base claim, canceled claim 17, and is therefore now allowable. Previously presented claim 28 depends from claim 27 and is therefore also allowable. Claims 18-26 and 29 have been amended to depend from claim 27 and are therefore allowable for the same reasons as claim 27.

Claim 34 has been rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of canceled independent claim 30 and canceled intervening dependent claim 33 and is therefore now allowable. Claims 31-32 have been amended to depend from claim 34 and are therefore allowable for the same reasons as claim 34.

Independent claim 35 has been amended to include the limitation originally included in claim 27 and is therefore believed to be allowable for the same reasons as claim 27, as amended. Claim 36 depends from claim 35 and is therefore allowable for the same reasons as claim 35.

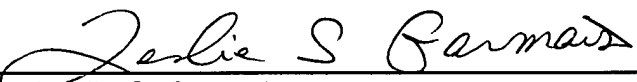
**Conclusion:**

In view of the foregoing, Applicant contends that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully requests that the instant application be passed to issue. Should there be any questions regarding this matter, the examiner is requested to call the below-listed attorney. It is not believed that any fees are due. However, if additional fees are required, please debit our Deposit Account No. 04-1414.

Respectfully submitted,

DORR, CARSON, SLOAN, BIRNEY & KRAMER, P.C.

Date: 3-2-2004

By:   
Leslie S. Garmaise  
Reg. No. 47,587  
3010 East 6th Avenue  
Denver, Colorado 80206  
(303) 333-3010